

# Hosea 1-3 – 12 February 2026

## “God’s Response To Betrayal”

### Introduction

Read 1:1

1. Hosea ministered in the N Kingdom of Israel
2. It’s 755BC – 710 BC – Right as Israel takes their last deep dive into idolatry and destruction

\*The book will answer that question, ‘How does God respond in the face of betrayal?’

\*The first 3 chapters give the overall account of Hosea and his wife Gomer before going into great details in the following chapters

\*Hosea pictures God and Gomer pictures Israel

**Today, we begin with 4 states of being of Gomer which represents Israel**

## #1 – Disposition: Their names speak of their sinful nature (Vs 1:2-2:1)

Read 1:2

1. In this first main interaction w/ God, Hosea is told what to do, but also why he should do it
2. Some things from the mouth of God are so strange that He gives the why
  - a. In John 11 Jesus commanded to remove Lazarus' tombstone – why? So you will believe
  - b. Most often He doesn't give the *why*, b/c the blessing is in believing w/o sight, believing b/c He said so
  - c. Read John 20:28-29

Read 1:3a

1. Do not take his obedience for granted
2. How many people could the Lord have come to that refused to simply obey the voice of the Lord
  - a. How many today still refuse the will of God for them

## Read 1:3b-5

1. 1<sup>st</sup> reason given to name 1<sup>st</sup> son *Jezreel* is that “God will avenge the blood of Jezreel on Jehu”
  - a. Israel’s kings were in multiple dynasties
  - b. In 841 BC Jehu killed the dynasty of Ahab becoming king & Jehu’s descendant Jeroboam was still on throne
  - c. Though God used Jehu to judge, he went beyond God’s mandate in violence and power
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> reason given to name 1<sup>st</sup> son Jezreel is that God will end the kingdom of Israel
  - a. The word Jezreel means *scattering seed*
  - b. God now scatters Israel through Assyria
3. Through Jezreel we see God remembering the past and yet also pointing to the future

## Read 1:6-7

1. *Lo-ruhamah*’s name means “Not pitied”
  - a. God’s love & mercy are ending for Israel
2. But mercy toward Judah will endure longer

- a. We read of this in II Chr 32 with faithful king Hezekiah on Judah's throne
- b. 186,000 Assyrian wiped out by one angel

Read 1:8-9

1. *Lo-ammi*'s name means "Not my people"
2. God's view of Israel here is progressively revealed from His soon scattering of His people to removing His mercy from them as His people

Read 1:10-2:1

1. God will fulfill His promise to Abraham
2. What great mercy that God ends this opening with a great view of restoration in the end
  - a. This may speak in the near-term of Israel & Judah being restore together after Babylon
  - b. Also speaks of their long-term gathering under Jesus at Battle of Armageddon
3. At 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Jesus comes to the valley of Jezreel to have mercy on Israel making them His people again

4. Now we can mention Hosea & Gomer's names
  - a. Hosea (salvation) and Gomer (complete)
  - b. God will bring Israel a complete salvation

## **#2 – Dissatisfaction: Their idolatry leads to a painful path (Vs 2:2-13)**

Read 2:2-3

1. Hosea is to plead with Israel to abandon her spiritual adultery so that they don't return to a state as vulnerable as when a child is born
2. Though God could just destroy the adulterer & move on to another, He chooses to plead & contend

Read 2:4-5

1. Israel is portrayed as being unfaithful, not for the sexual lust of it, but b/c of wanting provision
  - a. She saw it as an economy & provision
2. She didn't trust God to be faithful, so she became unfaithful
  - a. Idolatry stems from dissatisfaction w/ God

## Read 2:6-7

1. God's response to adultery is to make it painful to continue on that path by placing thorns
  - a. This is an expression of great love
  - b. To block the path to Tree of Life after sin
  - c. God made it hard for Balaam to curse Israel
2. Notice the hardship isn't to punish, it's to turn their heart back to God
  - a. Prodigal son (Read Luke 15:17-18)

## Read 2:8-13

1. The ultimate problem – she accredits God's blessings in her life to another
  - a. Vs 8 – “She does not know” is she doesn't accredit to God the good things in her life
2. “And no one will deliver”
  - a. God intends to make it clear He's the One who gave it in the 1<sup>st</sup> place by taking it back
  - b. Not our hard work that earns our possessions
  - c. Not our smarts that deserved our wealth

- d. It was God that gave us the...
  - i. Ability to work hard
  - ii. Smarts in the first place
  - iii. Circumstances in which it all came together

### **#3 – Desertion: God initiates His love to the unfaithful (Vs 2:14-23)**

Read 2:14-15

1. In the time in which she sees her destitution, God allures her to turn from her prostitution
2. His allure is to provide for her when she realizes that she has no other way
3. His allure is to provide in a way that reminds her of her first love from long ago
4. “Valley of Achor”
  - a. I’ll provide plenty in a place of nothing
  - b. Achor means trouble – “I’ll replace her trouble with blessing

Read 2:16-20

1. “You will call me husband, not master”

- a. We'll have the proper relationship finally
2. Vs 18 – I'll be a husband that provides for you from nature
3. Vs 19 – This restoration is ultimately future
  - a. Once restored, it's forever & in justice

Read 2:21-23

1. As we come in alignment with God, all things begin to provide as they should (Read Matt 6:33)
2. God doesn't want to be our master, but our husband and God
  - a. Not a contractual relationship, but an actual relationship

#### **#4 – Disinfection: God fulfills His love to the unfaithful (Vs 3:1-5)**

Read 3:1

1. Some treat divorce as the obvious answer to adultery, but it was only allowed for b/c we have hard hearts (Deut 24:1 & Read Matt 19:7-8)

2. A soft heart will try winning back the adulterer
3. Marriage pics Christ & Church (easy & hard)

Read 3:2-3

1. Unclear whether he paid her prostitution wage or to buy her out of slavery
  - a. Seems not to be slavery b/c that wage is 30 (Lev 27)
2. Notice he was willing to invest even more that he should have
  - a. This was his wife – justice is to pay nothing
  - b. This is grace – to buy her yet again at his own cost

Read 3:4

1. Vs 4 is the fulfillment of vs 1
2. Since Babylon, Israel has gone w/o these things
  - a. No king on David's throne
  - b. No religious system in the Temple
  - c. No divine direction or supernatural guidance

## Read 3:5

1. Vs 5 is the fulfillment of vs 3
2. 'In the last days' makes it clear Israel won't get these things until the end just after the Tribulation
3. What has to happen first?
  - a. The fulfillment of vs 2
  - b. Israel must accept the payment that their husband God made for them on Calvary's cross

## Conclusion

So, thru Gomer, we've seen a picture of Israel

1. **Disposition: They're naturally sinful**
2. **Dissatisfaction: Their idolatry leads to a painful path**
3. **Desertion: In her wandering, God initiates His love to her**
4. **Disinfection: In her emptiness, God fulfills His love to her**

How does God respond to betrayal? W/ love & grace